May 31, 1955

Dear Mr. Feichtmeir:

..approximately oneyear ago I wrote you regardingthe great menace thatis presented by these Mexican Nationals..by virtue of their d ivingautomobi es andother ve icles and the many accidents that have been occurringin this connection.

Nxxx There is now again a seasona rise in the number of these workers andof course the troub es are again multiplying and I no longer canremain dormant to a situation of this kind...

This letteris triggered by the fact that wehave had another series of accidents right close to us here in the Ontario camp in which at least 3such accidents have occurred within the past weeks, oneof the Nationals having suffered multiple injuries including fractured ribs, and etc., and also another major tragedy in which the Mayor of the City of Chino was killed outright and his wife seriously injured by oneof these Mexican Nationa s while diriving his car. You will probably also recall the cases we had in Santa Barbara, xxxxxx also t ose in the Watsonville area, those in the Brawley area, those in Orange and those here in the San Gabriel valley, in the past.

Inaddition to that there have been near-acciden s such as the one in whichoneof the men almost killed the family of the camp manager in the San Gabriel Valley Labor Ass'n. recent y... Also the incident of the barracks inone of the camps being set afire by one of these men bringing gasoline from his car to store in the barracks and oneof his co-workers setting fire to it accidentally while smoking...

It must be ovious to all that thes mencannot read or speak the English language, and therefore are not conversant with the rules and regulationsof traffic in theUnited States, and they would not be able to read the signs and to observe the speed limits and etc. They do not understand the local road conditions and do not stop when t hey should and do not recognize main thorofares andetc., and also they usually have no licence todrive,and of course, no insurance. Also, most of the cars they drive are antiquated models as they are unable to buy a new car and these old cars have faulty brakes, headlights andetc., andpoor tires. Also they make excursions into metropolitan ar as for diversion and are under the inf uence of alcohol, so you can then see the many phases of this and the dangers, and it is my very definite feeling and conviction that this should be stopped by constituted authority and the driving of, and ownership of motor vehicles by these men be prohibited and so stated in their employment contract agreements...

Very truly yours,
Francisco Brave, M.D.

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Sept.16,1954

Dear Mr. Feichtmeir:

With reference to the recentlossof life and the great amount of physical disability incurred in automobile accidents thruout the State, wherein the MexicanNationals drive their own cars andtake their friends for rides --these recent losses i Santa Barbara,the Watsonville area, and the Imperial Va ey and other places wherein ashigh as 5 lives hve been lost at one time, andwhere the disability of those persons who have remained alive exceeds their insurance coverage...it is advisedthat anexclusion be written in for t is type of loss of life and physical disability.

)More)

...TheLabor Associationsof course undoubtedly come up with trouble in connection wit thes accidents ot er than medical and disability and lack of manpower, for instance such as a recent episode occurring in the San Gabriel Valley, as related to me by Mr. Kennedy...wherein oneof his men broke or ran down a gasoline pump in a service statio and it was foundhe had neit h insurance nor driver's licence and of course insufficient funds to cover the d mage -- it posed a problem of remunieration for the service-station owner and of courss the legal p oblem of the driver aving no licence.

The solution undoubtedly wo ld be to prohibit the purchasing and use of cars by these men... While theinsurance company would be protected against this financial expense th patient would bebefit by protecting his own life and limb and of course the Mexican Government by the protectingof its citizens. It is bad enoug hwith the jay-walkers who are pedestrians and who do not recignize the laws or understand them here, and get run down, and where libility is not assumed by the driver because of the Nationals violating the laws -- the remedy for this is not ye within my mind or thinking...

Francisco Bravo